

Lesson 3 – QuikPrep Stitch

We are now ready to baste and to QuikPrep Stitch our leaf. We will be doing two different stitches. For the first type of stitching, we will do a normal basting stitch. We will use this stitch where one patch slides under another patch. These edges will not be turned under.

The second type of stitch is the “QuikPrep Stitch.” This stitch will be used on all edges that will be turned under.

Thread your QuikPrep needle with a 24” – 30” length of QuikPrep thread – that is a thread that contrasts well with the appliqué fabric. We want it to show up easily against the appliqué fabric. This thread should be 30 to 50 wt. If your appliqué fabric is light in color, select a very dark QuikPrep thread such as a dark brown or black. If your appliqué fabric is very dark in color, select a very light QuikPrep thread such as a pastel or a white. It’s OK to use up your old dressmaker thread.

Knocking the end of the QuikPrep thread is optional. When QuikPrep stitching a patch that you will immediately appliqué, leave the ends un-knotted. If you are QuikPrep stitching a number of patches at once and anticipate waiting to appliqué the patches, you may prefer to knot the ends of the QuikPrep thread to prevent accidentally pulling them out.

Using Figure 2_10 as reference, we will begin basting at a spot next to the center. At this spot our leaf will be sliding under the center and under the petals on the left and right. We will not be turning this edge under so let’s just baste it with our QuikPrep thread. Use stitches that are fairly short. 1/4” or slightly less will work great. **Be sure to baste directly on the pencil line.**

Because these are regular basting stitches they will look different than our QuikPrep Stitch. This will tell us that the area we have just basted will not be turned under. You will notice that our QuikPrep thread came out at the intersection of the leaf and petal. (Figure2_11) This is the point that we will need to begin turning under the appliqué fabric when we begin appliqueing.

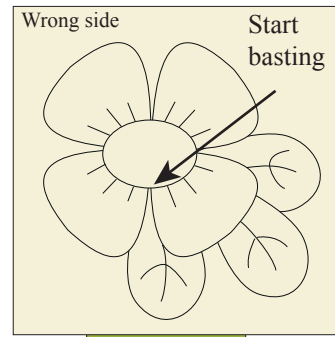


Figure 2_10

We will now use the QuikPrep Stitch to mark the line that we will be turning under on the front. Once again we will stitch directly on our pencil line. **Our QuikPrep Stitch is longer on the front and shorter on the back**

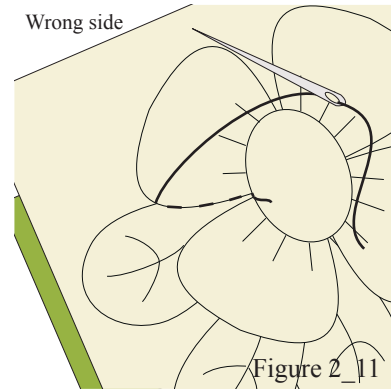


Figure 2_11

thus producing a stitching line that is almost continuous. This line will be our turn-under line, our stitching line, the edge of our appliqué.

QuikPrep Stitch Steps

1. Place the point of your needle 1-2 background threads ahead of the intersection where the QuikPrep thread comes out. (Figure 2_12)

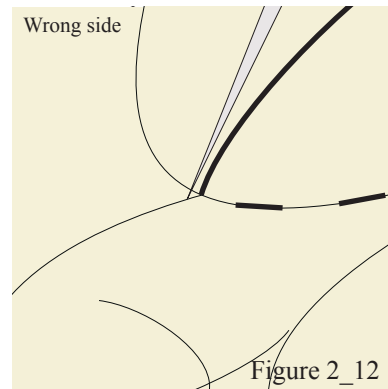
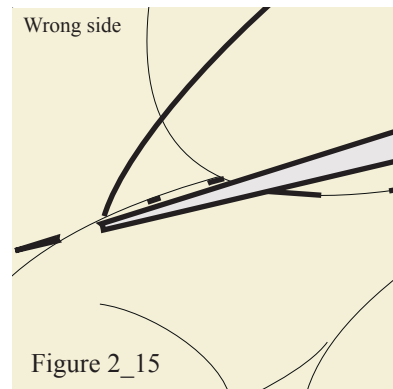
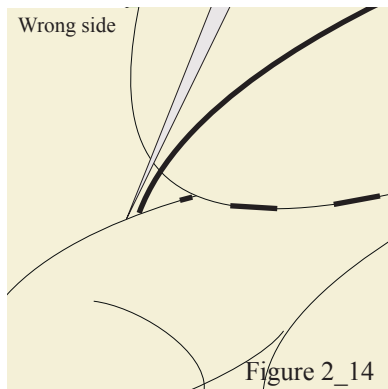
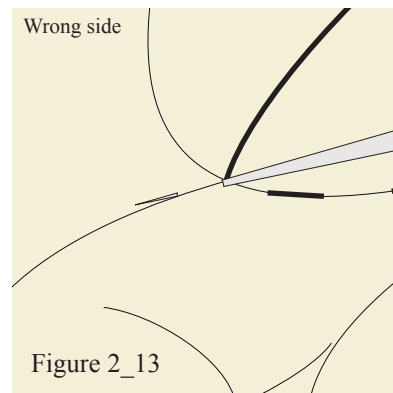


Figure 2_12

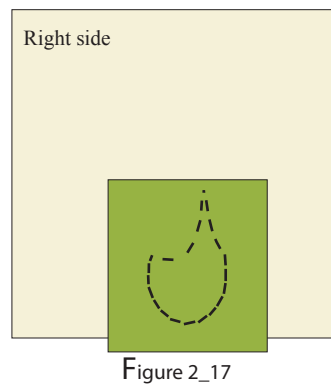
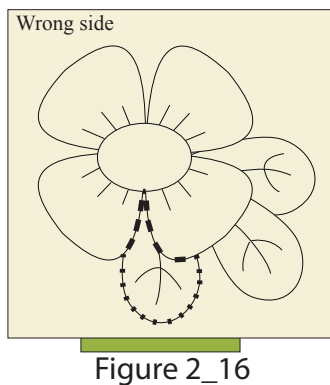
2. Push down through the background fabric and through the appliqué fabric. Push the needle

forward between 1/8" and 1/4", coming back up through the appliqué fabric and then the background fabric. The point of the needle should emerge directly on the pencil line between 1/8" and 1/4" ahead of where our needle first went in. Pull the QuikPrep thread through. (Figure 2_13)

3. Next, place the point of the needle just 1-2 background threads ahead of where the QuikPrep thread came out and directly on the pencil line. Repeat step 2.
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 until the entire patch has been QuikPrep stitched.



The wrong side of our leaf will look like Figure 2_16. The right side of our leaf will look like Figure 2_17. Note in Figure 2_17 the difference between the basting stitches and the QuikPrep Stitches. You can immediately tell which edges slide under other patches and which edges will be turned under.



Top Tip 4

When properly executed, the QuikPrep Stitch is shorter on the back and longer on the front producing a line on the front of the appliqué that is almost continuous.